

Name _____



Growing Together

As Dorothy followed the yellow brick road, she met three unusual companions who would become her closest friends: the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, and the Cowardly Lion. Each of them longed for something they believed they were missing. But as their journey unfolded, they discovered that they already had the very qualities they sought.

The Scarecrow believed he needed a brain because he was made of straw and feared he was not smart. Yet, as the group traveled through Oz, he often came up with clever solutions to tricky problems. He figured out how to cross a deep river, outwitted enemies, and gave wise advice. By the time they reached the Emerald City, it was clear that the Scarecrow was already intelligent. The Wizard of Oz gave him a diploma, but the truth was—his intelligence had been inside him all along.

The Tin Woodman believed he lacked a heart. Since he was made of metal and had no beating heart, he feared he could never feel love or kindness. However, he was the most caring of the group, showing deep concern for his friends. When the group encountered trouble, he was always the first to help. He wept when he accidentally stepped on a beetle, proving that he felt emotions deeply. When the Wizard gave him a heart-shaped clock, it was only a symbol—his compassion had been there all along.

The Cowardly Lion thought he had no courage because he was afraid of danger. However, time and time again, he proved his bravery. He fought off fierce creatures, protected his friends, and faced the Wicked Witch of the West. Though he felt fear, he did not let it stop him. The Wizard gave him a medal for courage, but he had been brave from the very beginning.

Through their journey, the Scarecrow, Tin Woodman, and Cowardly Lion grew not because they received gifts from the Wizard, but because they realized their own strengths. They symbolized intelligence, love, and bravery—qualities that were inside them the whole time. Their story teaches us an important lesson: sometimes, we already have everything we need, even if we don't believe it at first.